



NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

FROM: Department of Parks and Recreation
1416 Ninth Street
P.O. Box 942896
Sacramento, CA 94296-0001

PROJECT TITLE: Paso Picacho Day Use Accessibility Improvements (Project ID No. 017201-77)

LOCATION: Cuyamaca Rancho State Park

COUNTY: San Diego

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT: The State Parks Accessibility Construction Unit (ACU) crew proposes to construct nine new accessible picnic sites on accessible routes with concrete in the day use area. Four new concrete accessible parking stalls will be constructed. Two new water stations will be placed in the day use area and an interpretive panel will be placed in a compliant manner. Miscellaneous directional route signs will also be installed. Minor modifications to the existing restroom will be required for ADA Compliance.

In the Campfire Center area, ACU crews will construct a new concrete parking stall that will access a new wood bordered aggregate and boardwalk footpath to the existing campfire center, which will be brought to ADA compliance by leveling area and placing compacted aggregate. Seating will be modified in the front row in three places to accommodate wheelchair and companion seating. Also, a striped crosswalk and short wood bordered trail will be placed from the day use parking area to access the Azalea Trailhead. Also, at the Visitors Center (VC), ACU will level a 28' x 28' area for ADA parking using compacted aggregate and provide a wood bordered access path 5' x 30' in length to access ramp. Also, two stair cases will be removed and replaced at both the front and rear of the VC.

BMPs to minimize water quality impacts will include silt fencing and straw waddles. Straw waddles will be the animal resistant type to avoid impacts to wildlife. Waddles will be placed around all debris and stock piles as well as along slopes to prevent the movement of excess sediment from the project site. Orange mesh fencing will be placed around the drip line of trees to exclude these areas from work.

PUBLIC AGENCY APPROVING THE PROJECT: California Department of Parks and Recreation

NAME OF DIVISION OR DISTRICT CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT: Colorado Desert District

EXEMPT STATUS:

- ☐ Declared Emergency (Section 15269(a))
☐ Emergency Project (Section 15269(b) and (c))
☐ Statutory Exemption (Section)
☒ Categorical Exemption

Class: 1, 3, 4, 11

Section: 15301 15303 15304 15311

REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT: No potential for significant impact to the environment is anticipated in compliance with CEQA §15300.2. If the project is implemented as indicated within the project description including comments provided by CDPR specialists, then it is exempt under CEQA §15301 – Existing Facilities, §15303 – New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures, §15304 – Minor Alterations to Land, and §15311 – Accessory Structures. The action falls under the Departmental List of Exempt activities according to CEQA §15300.4 as:

- "Modifications of existing facilities for handicap access" (Class 1, Section 15301);
- "Construction of park facilities such as... small parking lots and interpretive signing " (Class 3, Section 15301;
- Grading on land with a slope of less than 10%" (Class 4, Section 15304); and

- "Construction of additional public use facilities" (Class 11, Section 15311)

The project does not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees (Class 4).

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Barney Matsumoto, Director
Southern Service Center



DATE